

Port Chester Schools COVID-19 Isolation and Quarantine Protocols

January 5, 2022 Update

CDC and NYS guidelines

CDC and NYS have changed their guidelines often in the past few weeks. We are currently awaiting an update. If and when NYS changes, we will adjust and notify the community.

OUR CURRENT PROTOCOLS

When an individual tests positive

- **Fully Vaccinated Individuals** who test positive must isolate for 10 days and can return on Day 11 if asymptomatic. No shortening of isolation has been accepted by WDOH to this date. At this time, a test is not needed to return.
- **Unvaccinated Individuals** who test positive are not eligible to come back early or test out of isolation. They must isolate for 10 days and can return on Day 11 if asymptomatic. A test is not needed to return.

Students Who are Direct Contacts of a Positive Individual (with proof)

- Fully Vaccinated Students, who are asymptomatic, can report to school. A test is not needed to return.
- Unvaccinated Students who are identified as direct contacts must quarantine until returning on Day 11. A test is not needed to return. OR, if asymptomatic, may be eligible to participate in Test to Stay. As part of TTS, the District will conduct a Rapid Antigen a minimum of 3 out of 5 days from the date of exposure.

Employees Who are Direct Contacts of a Positive Individual (SCHOOL EXPOSURE ONLY)

- Fully Vaccinated Employees, who are asymptomatic, can report to work. A test is not needed to return.
- **Unvaccinated Employees** who are identified as direct contacts and are asymptomatic, must quarantine until returning on Day 11. A test is not needed to return. **OR** may be eligible to participate in Test-to-Stay. As part of TTS, the District will conduct a Rapid Antigen a minimum of 3 out of 5 days from the date of exposure.

How are close contacts determined:

See our flowchart here

Having COVID-19 symptoms without any known exposure:

Individuals may return when asymptomatic with a negative Rapid Antigen Test or negative PCR test.

TESTING

Testing: What does the District Accept?

• **Proof of Positivity:** The District will accept a Rapid Antigen Test or PCR as proof of positivity for both adults and students.

Testing: What does the District NOT Accept?

- Rapid Antigen Tests are not acceptable in order to refute a positive result or decrease quarantine/isolation.
- If in doubt, an individual will be isolated and excluded from school
- Once an individual has been deemed positive, there is no testing out.

TEST-TO-STAY PROGRAM

<u>Test-to-Stay Program (only for those unvaccinated and exposed in school)</u>

- Eligibility:
 - Only asymptomatic individuals who were exposed at school, where both the positive individual
 and exposed individual were wearing masks consistently and correctly and were identified as a
 direct contact by an administrator or nurse, may participate in the Test-to-Stay Program.
 - Even if an individual is approved to attend school, he/she must still quarantine before and after school hours.
 - If an individual becomes symptomatic while part of TTS, they must stay home and be tested for Covid.
 - o If an individual is exposed to a new case, the "clock" resets to Day 1.
 - TTS individuals may not participate in extracurricular activities.
- Location/Time: Test to Stay testing will begin on Tuesday, January 11th from 7:00 a.m. to 8:00 a.m. at Port Chester High School and John F. Kennedy Elementary School. All individuals who were identified as direct contacts as a result of school exposure MUST report for testing prior to being admitted to school/work.
- **Frequency:** Individuals participating in the TTS program must be tested 3 out of 5 days after exposure. By the 7th day if they remain asymptomatic, they no longer have to be tested.

Notification:

- The TTS Team will provide each individual with a "Green-to-Go" pass upon testing. This pass can be brought to the main office or other designated space in each building, as decided by principals.
- A database will be developed and shared with all administrators so that they have a record of the results of each individual that participated in TTS in their school. The database will be populated by a nurse who is being hired for this specific purpose.